CLAIMS

We claim:

1. (Currently Amended) A pressure relief and topping valve for use in exhausting over-pressure in an inflatable device as well as topping off or inflating the inflatable device, the valve comprising:

a valve body having a fluid passage therein with an internal shoulder;

a first poppet having a seal seated therein and biased against the shoulder by a first spring that operates independently, the first poppet and seal having an aperture therein;

a second poppet biased into the aperture by a second spring that operates independently from the first spring.

2. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 1 wherein the second poppet is biased against the seal in the aperture.

3. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 1 wherein the seal includes a first face that seats within a recessed seat within the first poppet.

4. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 3 wherein the seal includes a seating surface for sealable seating against the internal shoulder when the first poppet is biased against the shoulder.

5. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 4 wherein the seal includes a sealing shoulder for sealable seating against the second poppet when the second poppet is biased into the aperture by the second spring.

6. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 1 wherein the first poppet includes a recessed seat with a poppet aperture extending therein extending through the first poppet, the first poppet further including a plurality of

outward stops extending from the poppet and defining air flow passages therebetween.

7. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 6 wherein the first spring is positioned between the first poppet and a first spring retainer for biasing the first poppet against the shoulder.

8. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 7 wherein the second poppet includes a stem extending to a head with a neck therebetween, where the poppet seats within the poppet aperture and selectively against the seal.

9. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 8 wherein the second spring is positioned between the first poppet and a second spring retainer for biasing the second poppet against the seal.

10. (Currently Amended) A pressure relief and topping valve for use in exhausting over-pressure in an inflatable device as well as topping off or inflating the inflatable device, the valve comprising:

a valve body having a fluid passage therein with an internal shoulder;

a first poppet having a recessed seat with a poppet aperture extending therein extending through the first poppet, the first poppet further including a plurality of outward stops extending from the poppet;

a first spring retainer for holding the first poppet within the fluid passage;

a first spring positioned between the first poppet and the first spring retainer for biasing the first poppet against the shoulder, the first spring being independent;

a seal having a seal aperture therein aligned with the poppet aperture when the seal is seated in the recessed seat and selectively against the internal shoulder;

a second poppet having a stem extending to a head with a neck therebetween, where the poppet seats within the poppet aperture and selectively

against the seal;

a second spring retainer for holding the second poppet within the fluid passage; and

a second spring positioned between the first poppet and the second spring retainer for biasing the second poppet against the seal, and the second spring operating independently from the first spring.

11. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 10 wherein the seal includes a first face that seats within a recessed seat with the first poppet.

12. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 11 wherein the seal includes a seating surface for sealable seating against the internal shoulder when the first poppet is biased against the shoulder.

13. (Original) The pressure relief and topping valve of claim 12 wherein the seal includes a sealing shoulder for sealable seating against the second poppet when the second poppet is biased into the aperture by the second spring.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for selectively topping an inflateable device as well as allowing excess pressure to relieve from the inflatable device, the method comprising:

selectively compressing a first spring within a valve body to allow fluid flow over a seal and around a first poppet when topping of the inflatable device is desired as the first poppet with the seal sealably seated therein is unseated from against an internal shoulder within the valve body; and

~~selectively~~ compressing, as needed, a second spring positioned within the first poppet that operates independently from the first spring operation, when excess pressure exists within the inflatable device thereby pressure relieving the inflatable device by allowing fluid flow between the seal and a second poppet as the second poppet is unseated from against the seal.

15. (New) A seal for use in a valve such as a pressure relief and topping valve for use in exhausting over-pressure in an inflatable device as well as topping off or inflating the inflatable device, the seal comprising a seal body with a seal aperture therein, the seal body further including a face that is seatable within the valve, a seating surface for sealable seating in one direction, and a sealing shoulder for sealable seating in a second direction.

16. (New) The seal of claim 15 wherein the seal body further includes a pressure relief poppet facing surface which defines the seal aperture and includes the seating surface thereon, and an inner surface that includes the sealing shoulder extending therefrom out to the pressure relief poppet facing surface.

17. (New) The seal of claim 16 wherein the inner surface of the seal body further includes a tapered surface terminating into a valley adjacent the sealing shoulder.

18. (New) The seal of claim 17 wherein the valve body further includes a tapered outer surface adjacent to a pressure relief poppet facing surface.